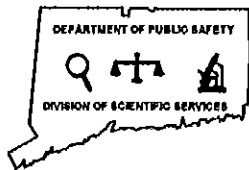


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STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

John A. Danaher III
Commissioner

Lieutenant Edwin S. Henlon
Chief of Staff

March 22, 2010

Rep. Michael Lawlor, Co-Chairman
Sen. Andrew J. McDonald, Co-Chairman
Judiciary Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

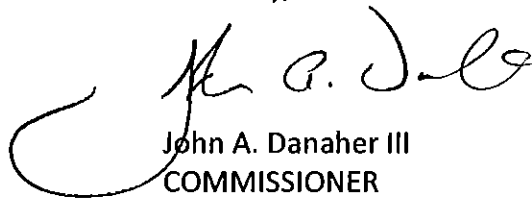
HB 5533 An Act Concerning Sexting

The Department of Public Safety supports this bill.

The Department of Public Safety supports the concept that juveniles between the ages of thirteen and eighteen should not transmit visual depictions of child pornography through electronic devices. The State Police Computer Crime Unit is dedicated to combating crimes against children. It conducts frequent public speaking engagements with stakeholder groups regarding this issue.

The age group covered by this proposed bill appears to be largely ignorant of the potentially life-altering consequences of being included in the sex offender registry. This bill strikes a good balance between asserting the illegality of the activity while, at the same time, removing the age population from the serious consequences of being required to register as a sex offender. This proposal, coupled with an intensive media campaign targeting our youth regarding the underlying consequences of this behavior, should provide an effective deterrent to this conduct.

Sincerely,



John A. Danaher III
COMMISSIONER